<u>AMENDMENT</u>

IN THE CLAIM:

Please amend Claims 1-16 as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A printing blanket, comprising

a reinforcement layer formed of at least one sheet of fabric.

a compressive layer, and

a surface rubberlayer laid on said compressive layer through a supporting body, characterized in that wherein

said compressive layer is separated by a separation layer so as to be divided into two layers of a first compressive layer and second compressive layer.

so as to absorb normal printing pressure at the first compressive layer and to absorb rapidly applied over-printing pressure at the second compressive layer.

volume of porosity of said first compressive layer is 0.10 - 0.20 mm while volume of porosity of the entire first and second compressive layers is 0.25 mm or more, and

hardness thereof is 70JIS-A - 80JIS-D and the thickness thereof is 0.05 mm or more.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The printing blanket according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein

said compressive layer divided into two layers is formed such that each has a different amount of an air space.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The printing blaket according to Claim 1 er-2, characterized in that wherein

said separation layer is formed by at least one layer of elastomer.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The printing blaket according to Claim 4—or 2, characterized in that wherein

said first compressive layer has an air space amount of 0.10-020 mm, and

the entire part of said first compressive layer and said second compressive layer has an air space amount of 0.25 mm or more

said separation layer is formed by at least one layer of elastomer.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The printing blanket according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterized in that wherein

said compressive layer has a matrix hardness of 50-90 JIS-A.

Claims 6-7 (Canceled)

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The printing blanket according to Claim 4-or 2, characterized intat

said separation layer is formed by one or more layers of elastomer, and wherein said compressive layer has a matrix hardness of 50-90 JIS-A.

Claims 9-16 (Canceled)